

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing system, comprising:
    - a printer; and
- 5            a printer control device for retrieving printer-independent print-quality characteristics associated with a document to be printed by said printer and for associating printer-dependent imaging actions with the printer-independent print-quality characteristics.
- 10          2. The printing system of claim 1, further comprising a user interface having a control for associating printer-independent print-quality characteristics with printer-dependent imaging actions.
- 15          3. The printing system of claim 1, further comprising a user interface having a first control for invoking an option of automatically associating printer-independent print-quality characteristics with printer-dependent imaging actions in accordance with a set of predetermined associations and a second control for manually associating printer-independent print-quality characteristics with printer-dependent imaging actions.
- 20          4. The printing system of claim 3, further comprising a third control for defining a custom printer-independent print-quality characteristic and for associating printer-dependent imaging actions with said custom printer-independent print-quality characteristic.
- 25          5. The printing system of claim 3, further comprising a third control for saving a set of associations.
- 30          6. The printing system of claim 5, further comprising a fourth control for loading said saved set of associations.

7. The printing system of claim 5, further comprising a fifth control for selecting a default configuration of associations.

8. A method for controlling the quality of printing, comprising:  
5 providing a list of printer-dependent imaging actions;  
providing a list of printer-independent print-quality characteristics;  
selecting a printer-independent print-quality characteristic from the list of  
printer-independent print-quality characteristics; and  
associating at least one printer-dependent imaging action with the selected  
10 printer-independent print-quality characteristic.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:  
defining a custom printer-independent print-quality characteristic;  
adding the custom printer-independent print-quality characteristic to the list  
15 of printer-independent print-quality characteristics; and  
associating at least one printer-dependent imaging action with said custom  
printer-independent print-quality characteristic.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising saving a selected configuration  
20 of associations.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising loading a saved selected  
configuration of associations.

25 12. The method of claim 8, further comprising providing a default configuration  
of associations.